



Attorney Docket No. 20496-328

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 3752

Examiner: S. J. Ganey


Patent Application of : Dirk K. SPRAKEL
Serial No. : 10/089,924
Filed : August 6, 2004
Title of the Invention : DEVICE FOR EXTINGUISHING A FIRE

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patent
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Diane Elder

Name of person signing the certification



Signature

September 28, 2004

Date

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Applicant submits herewith a PTO-1449 form and copies of the foreign language information listed thereon in order to comply with the Applicant's duty of disclosure.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted with a Request for Continued Examination to permit consideration of the information cited herein.

With respect to the non-English information, English language equivalents have been supplied where available.

With regard to the three R.O.C. patent publications that are in the Chinese language, no English language equivalents or translations are currently available. Each

of these was cited by the R.O.C. Patent Office during the examination of a patent application which corresponds to the above identified patent application. The drawings in each of the R.O.C. patent publications are sufficiently clear to enable a comparison with the claimed invention. In addition, Applicant provides the following additional discussion of these publications.

R.O.C. Patent Pub. No. 186753 relates to an improved structure of an automatic fire extinguisher nozzle, the outlet of which is inserted with a plug (12) made of a metallic or a non-metallic material. The plug is configured to be in a convex shape and is deformable under the pressure generated by the fire extinguisher chemicals (see Fig. 4) so as to *prevent the chemicals from leakage*.

R.O.C. Patent Pub. No. 141828 relates to another type of automatic fire extinguisher wherein a temperature-sensitive tube is configured to plug the outlet of the nozzle so as to control the ejection of an extinguishing agent and *will break up in response to an elevated temperature caused by the fire*.

R.O.C. Patent Pub. No. 323519 was cited by the R.O.C. Patent Office as disclosing a different method for actuating fire extinguishers without further elaboration.

With regard to DE 2635076, this document is already of record herein. A translation of claim 1 is also supplied herewith as a brief summary of its contents.

English translations of R.O.C. Office Actions dated May 1, 2001, October 19, 2002, and December 4, 2003, are also enclosed for the Examiner's further elucidation.

It is submitted that none of these R.O.C. patent publications or any of the other prior art references discloses a bursting disk which bursts when the extinguishing fluid in the supply line reaches a predetermined bursting pressure, so that the extinguishing fluid

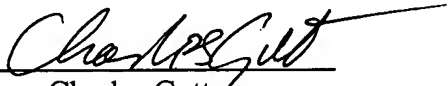
flows unimpeded into the extinguishing nozzles, wherein the extinguishing fluid fills the supply line and is at a resting pressure which is lower than the bursting pressure when the fire extinguisher is in a quiescent state, as set forth in claim 7.

Applicant respectfully requests that these documents be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the above-identified application.

If the Commissioner finds that any fees are due in connection with this submission, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fees from Deposit Account No. 16-2500.

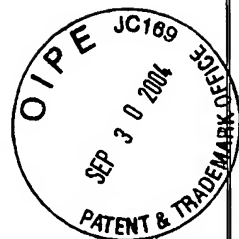
Respectfully submitted,

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Attorneys for the Applicant

By 
Charles Guttman
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September 28, 2004

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Enclosures: PTO-1449 Form with copies of listed information.



Form PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office					Attorney Docket No. 20496-328		Serial No. 10/089,924				
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)					Applicant Dirk K. SPRAKEL						
					I. A. Filing Date 30 September 2000		Group Art Unit 3752				
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS											
Examiner Initial	Document Number				Date	Name	Class	Sub Class			
	4	3	2	6	5	8	9	4/27/1982	Ballman		
	5	6	9	7	4	5	0	12/16/1997	Stehling et al.		
	5	7	1	3	4	1	7	2/3/1998	Sundholm		
	6	1	1	2	8	2	2	9/5/2000	Robin et al.		
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS											
Examiner Initial	Document Number				Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation		
									Yes	No	
	26 35 076 A1				2/9/1978	DE			X		
	34 40 901 A1				7/11/1985	DE			X		
	95/00205				1/5/1995	WO			X		
	98/04322				2/5/1998	WO			X		
	97/39804				10/30/1997	WO			X		
	96/33775				10/31/1996	WO			X		
	2,194,525				7/18/1997	CA			X		
	0 750 924 A1				1/2/1997	EP			X		
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)											
"Fire Protection Handbook," 18th Ed., Arthur R. Cote, Jim L. Linville, editors, National Fire Protection Association, Quincy, MA, pp. 6-199 to 6-206 (1997)											
Examiner						Date Considered					
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP§60 : Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered, include copy of this form with next communication to the patent owner.											



Serial No. 10/089,924

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	Applicant Dirk K. SPRAKEL	
	I. A. Filing Date 30 September 2000	Group Art Unit 3752

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation	
						Yes	No
	02019177 A	1/23/1990	JP			X	
	186753	7/01/1992	TW				X
	141828	9/11/1990	TW				X
	323519	12/21/1997	TW				X
	0046378	2/24/82	EP			X	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

English translations of R.O.C. and PRC Office Actions dated May 1, 2001, Oct. 19, 2002, April 18, 2003, Dec. 4, 2003, May 21, 2004.

Examiner	Date Considered
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